

1 **§ 18227.5. General Purpose Committees: State, County or City. (DRAFT 10/11/11)**

2 (a) A “general purpose” committee is defined in Section 82027.5 to include all major
3 donor and independent expenditure committees formed under Sections 82013(c) and (b), and
4 recipient committees formed under Section 82013(a) that support or oppose multiple candidates
5 or ballot measures, except as provided in Section 82047.5. (In contrast, a “primarily formed”
6 committee, defined in Section 82047.5 and Regulation 18247.5, supports or opposes a single
7 candidate or measure, or a group of specific measures or local candidates on the same ballot.)

8 (b) *Filing.* Under Section 84215, general purpose committees file as follows:

9 (1) A state general purpose committee files with the Secretary of State’s office.

10 (2) A county general purpose committee files with the county elections official.

11 (3) A city general purpose committee files with the office of the city clerk.

12 (c) *State, County or City.* To determine whether a general purpose committee is a state,
13 county or city committee under Section 82027.5, the following definitions apply:

14 (1) *City General Purpose Committee.* A "city general purpose committee" is a committee
15 that makes more than 70 percent of its contributions or expenditures during the 24 months
16 preceding a city election to support or oppose candidates or measures voted on in only one city,
17 or in one consolidated city and county, including contributions to city general purpose
18 committees in the same city or the same consolidated city and county.

19 (2) *County General Purpose Committee.* A "county general purpose committee" is a
20 committee that makes more than 70 percent of its contributions or expenditures during the 24
21 months preceding a county election to support or oppose candidates or measures voted on in only
22 one county, or in more than one jurisdiction within one county, including contributions to county
23 general purpose committees in the same county.

1 (3) *State General Purpose Committee.* A "state general purpose committee" is a
2 committee that meets the criteria in subparagraph (c)(3)(A), (c)(3)(B) or (c)(3)(C):

3 (A) The committee makes contributions or expenditures to support or oppose candidates
4 or measures voted on in state elections, including making contributions to other state general
5 purpose committees, or in more than one county, and does not meet the criteria for a county or a
6 city committee set forth in subdivisions (c)(1) or (c)(2) above.

7 (B) The committee is a political party committee, as defined in Section 85205.

8 (C) The committee qualifies as a major donor or independent expenditure committee
9 under Section 82013(c) or (b), and has made \$25,000 in contributions or expenditures in
10 connection with state candidates or measures during the time period including the current
11 calendar year and the previous two calendar years.

12 (c) *Review.* A general purpose committee shall verify its filing jurisdiction prior to the
13 close of the semi-annual filing periods at the end of June and December, and as necessary prior
14 to pre-election and 16-day report filing deadlines established in connection with a city, county or
15 state election. A new committee formed within six months of an election in connection with
16 which the committee makes contributions or expenditures shall verify its filing jurisdiction at the
17 end of each month.

18 (d) *Change of Status.* A recipient committee whose status changes from one jurisdiction
19 to another, or between general purpose and primarily formed shall amend its statement of
20 organization pursuant to Section 84103 to reflect the change. If, after filing reports with one
21 jurisdiction, a committee changes jurisdiction, the committee must continue filing reports with
22 the original filing officer through the end of the calendar year under Section 84215(g).

1 [(e) *Inactivity*. A recipient committee that makes no contributions or expenditures
2 supporting or opposing candidates or measures during a semi-annual filing period shall retain its
3 existing status.]

4 (f) *Avoidance of Disclosure*. A committee shall not knowingly file in an incorrect
5 jurisdiction or as an incorrect type of committee, with the intention of avoiding the appropriate
6 legal disclosure of campaign contributions and expenditures to the public.

7 Note: Authority cited: Section 83112, Government Code. Reference: Sections 82027.5 and
8 82047.5, Government Code.